

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/607,005

Examiner

Hai C. Pham

Applicant(s)

MASUDA, KOJI

Art Unit

2861

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to Amendment filed 02/17/06.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 11-22.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
 - * Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

Reasons For Allowance

1. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: claims 11, 21 and 22 are patentable over the prior art patents and printed publications because of the specific light emitting device array arrangement used in an optical writing unit, which comprises a plurality of light emitting device array chips, each of which comprises a plurality of light emitting devices that are arranged at a predetermined interval P, wherein the light volume of the light emitting devices is set up such that gradient of an approximated regression line for exposure areas corresponding to a plurality of the light emitting devices that are selected at a predefined cycle falls within a predetermined range, the predetermined range being defined for an effective image area in its entirety, and wherein the light volume of the light emitting devices that are located closest and next closest to an edge of the light emitting device array chips are set up such that said gradient corresponds to an interval P_a between the light emitting device closest to the edge of one of the light emitting device array chips and the light emitting device closest to the edge of an adjacent one of the light emitting device array chips. The combined limitations as currently claimed are not taught by the prior art of record alone or in combination.

Claims 12-20 are allowed because they are directly or indirectly dependent from claim 11 above.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Drawings

2. The drawings were received on 02/17/06. These drawings are accepted.

Contact Information

3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Hai C. Pham whose telephone number is (571) 272-2260. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8:30AM - 5:30PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Stephen D. Meier can be reached on (571) 272-2149. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



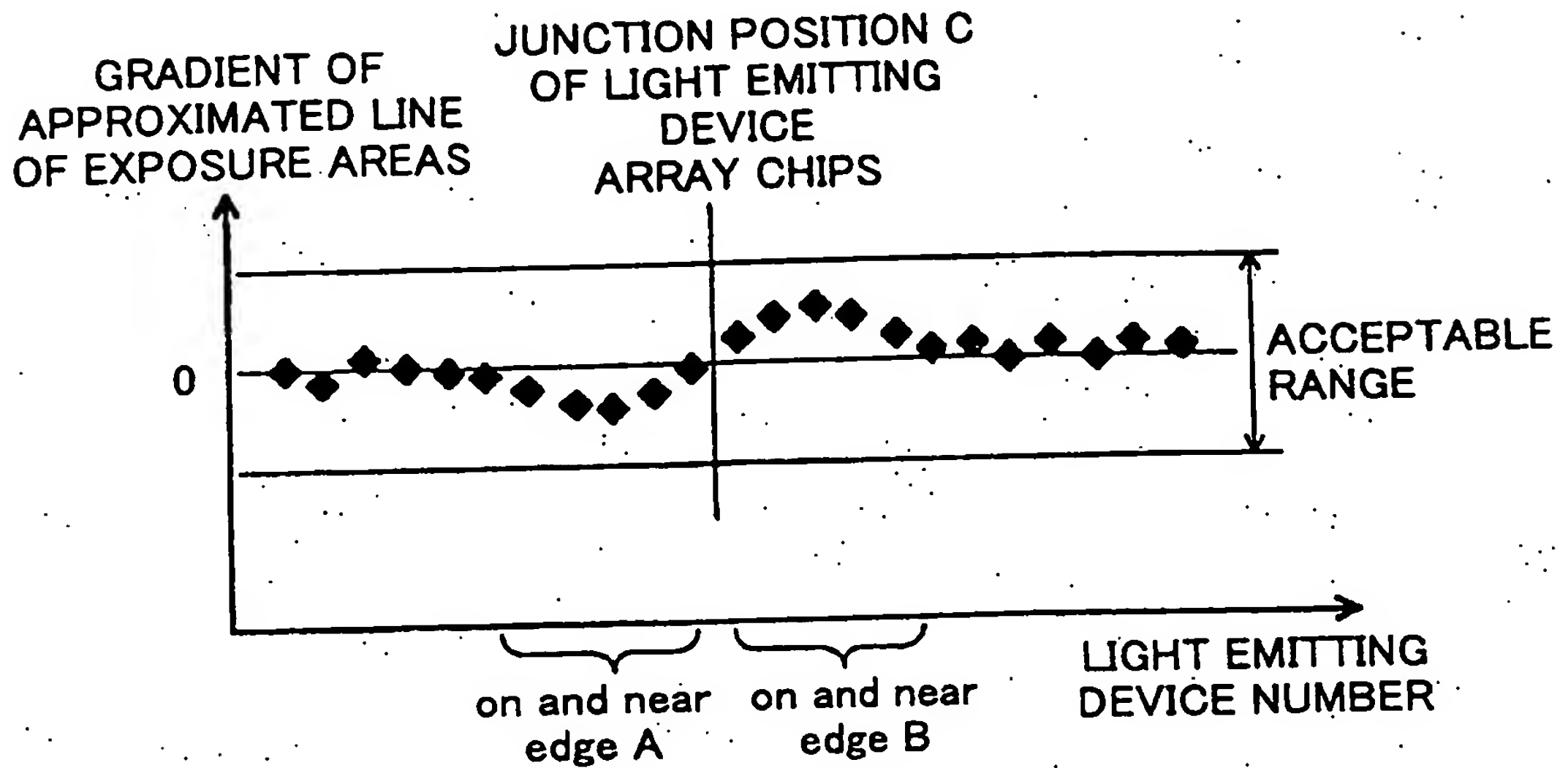
HAI PHAM
PRIMARY EXAMINER

March 2, 2006



OBLON, SPIVAK, ET AL
DOCKET NO: 239545US-2
INVENTOR: KOJI MASUDA
SERIAL NO: 10/607,005
REPLY TO OA: NOVEMBER 18, 2005
REPLACEMENT DRAWING

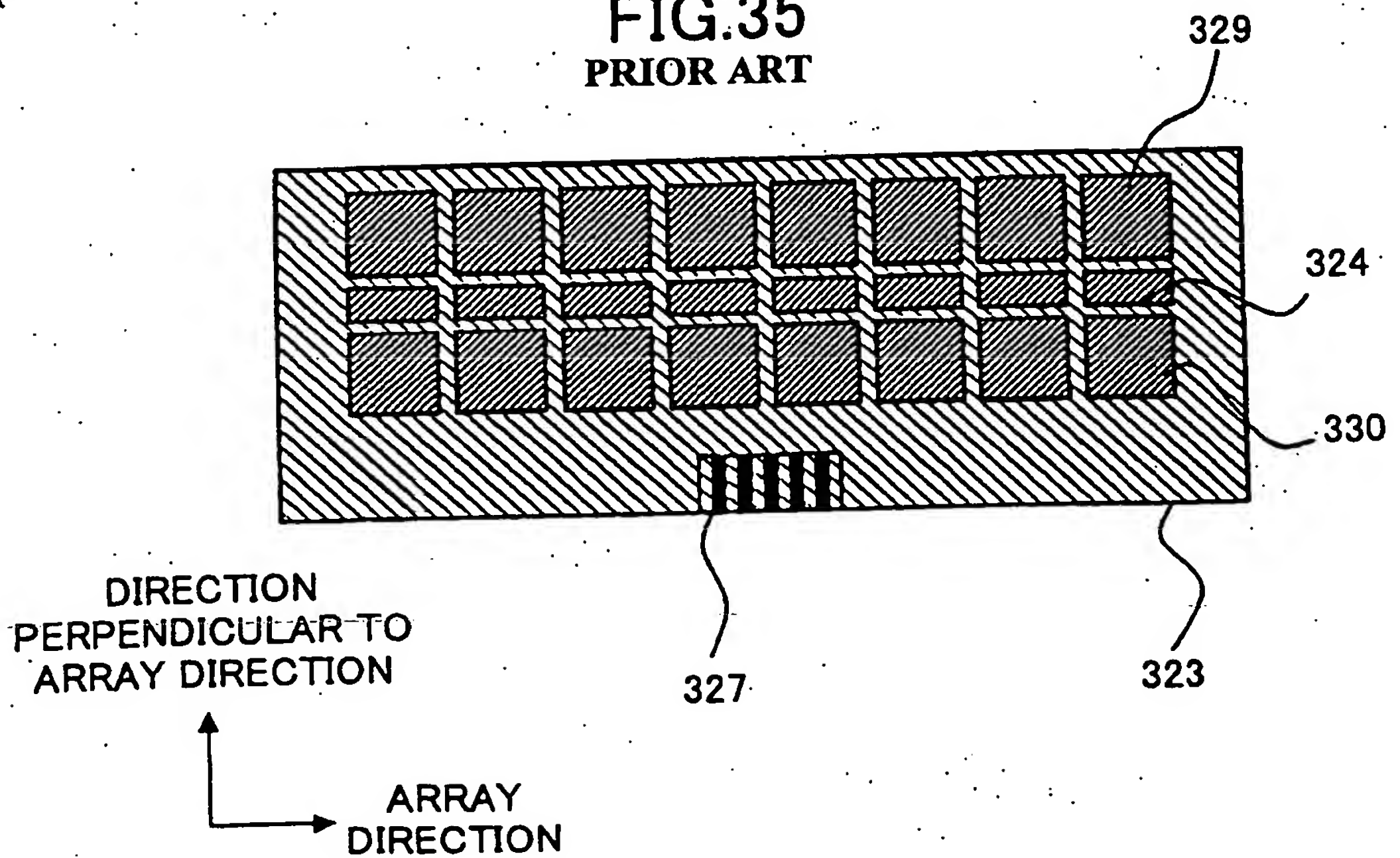
FIG.34



WHERE $P_a < P_L$

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FIG.35
PRIOR ART



PRIOR ART

FIG.36

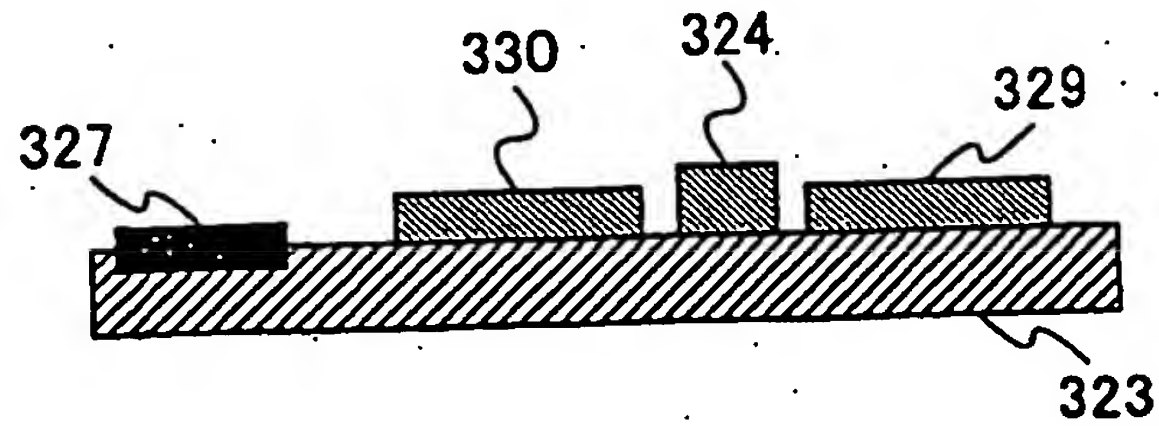
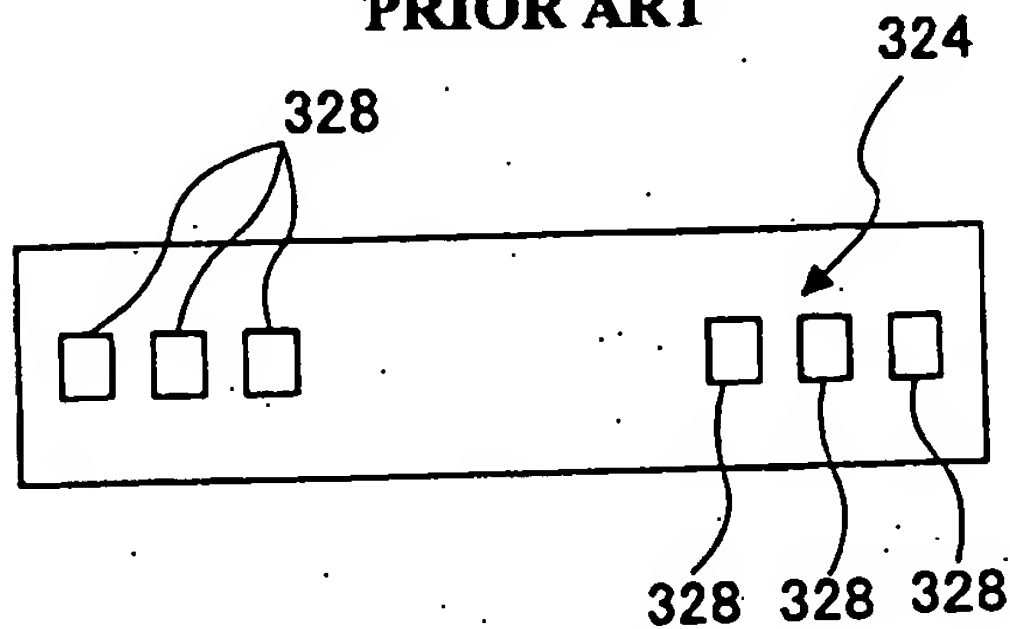


FIG.37

PRIOR ART



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FIG.38

PRIOR ART

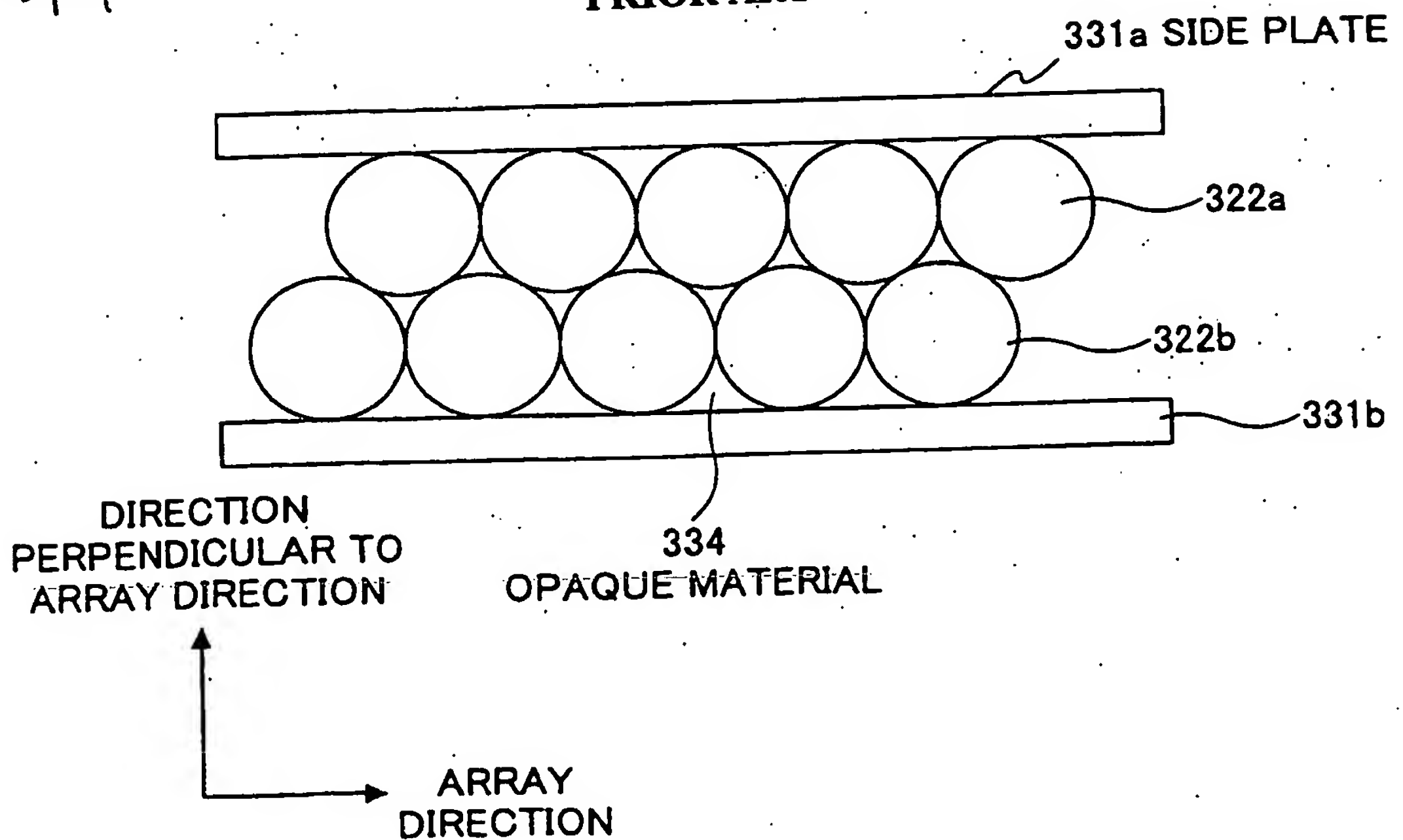
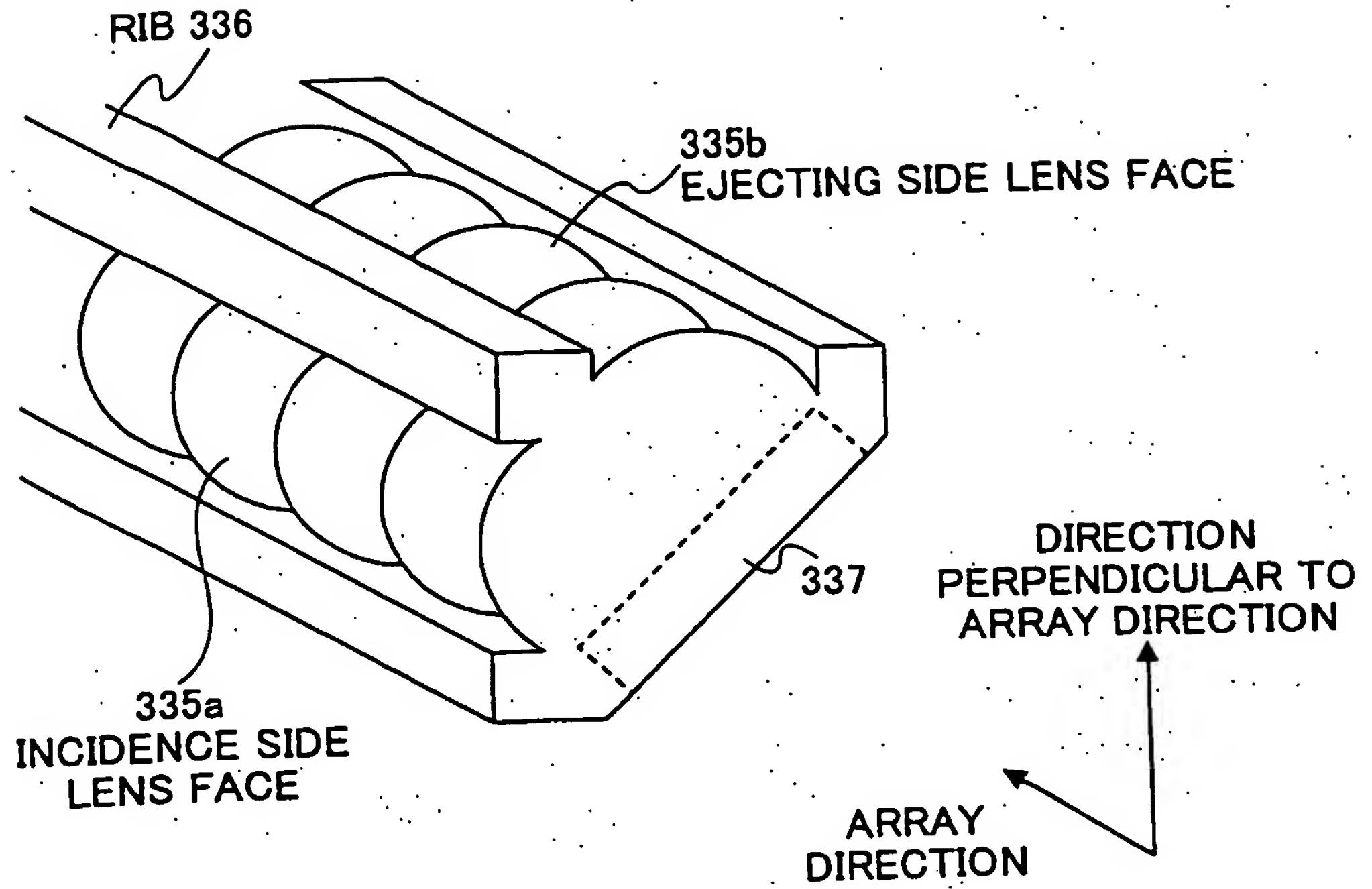


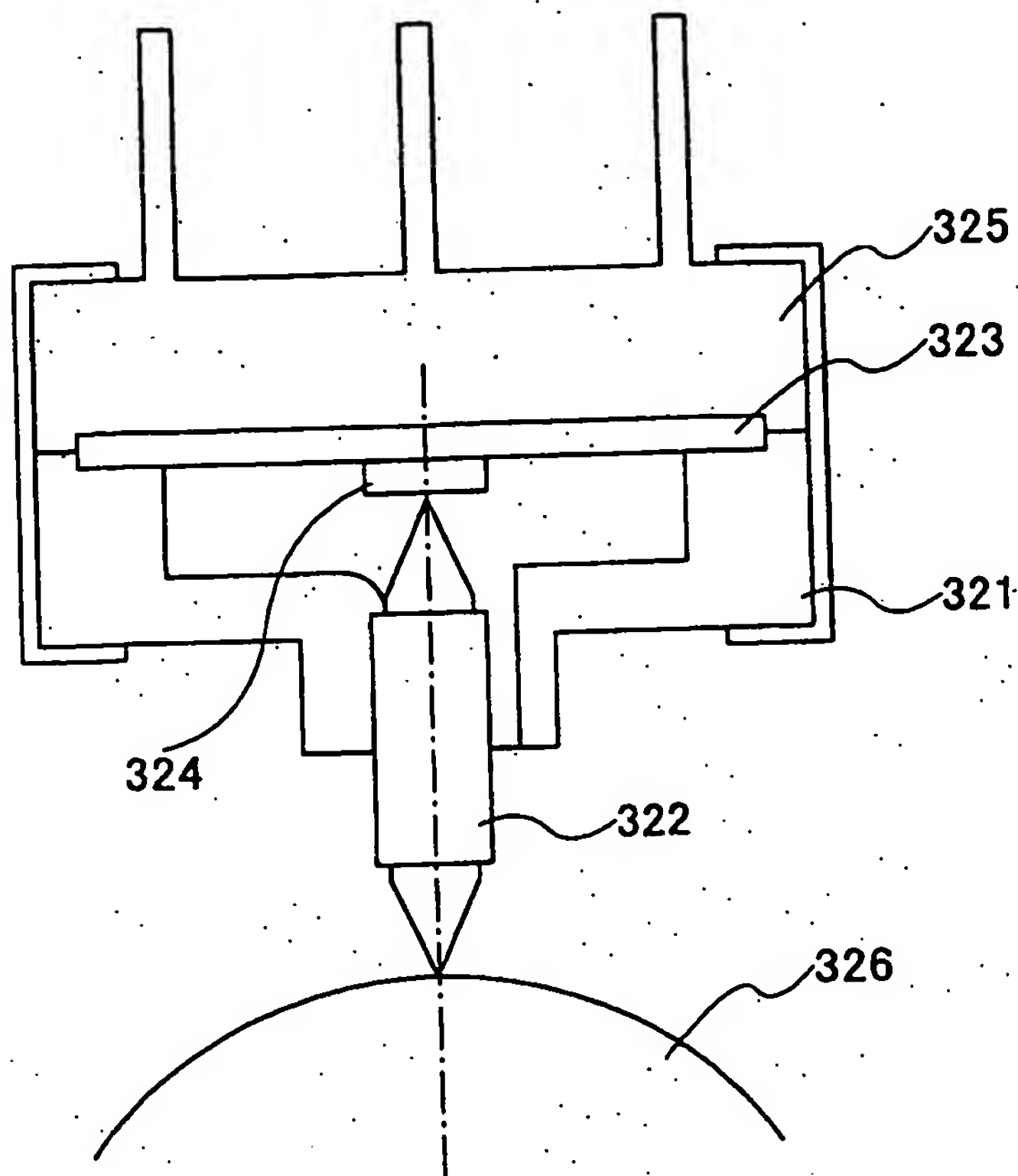
FIG.39

PRIOR ART



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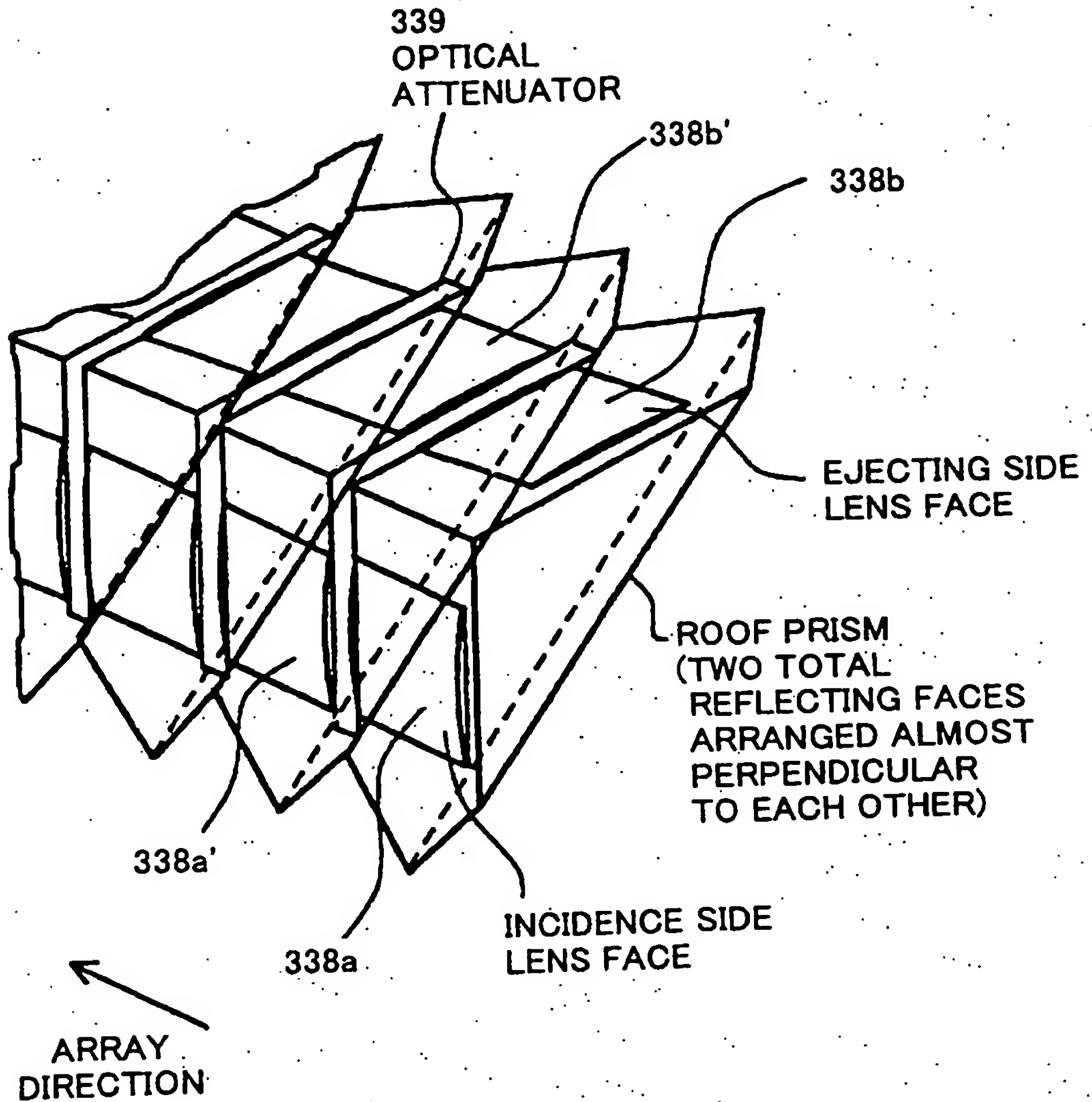
FIG.40
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FIG. 41

PRIOR ART



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